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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 1 February 1949

SUBJECT Order for the Establishment of GAI Command  
over Border and Paramilitary Police

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

The President  
German Administration of the Interior  
in the Soviet Zone of Occupation

Berlin, 5 Nov. 1948

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Vrs. Tgb. No. 01372/48 MA/Wt  
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Secret Control

Order for the

Transfer of Command of the Border and Paramilitary  
Police Units to the German Administration of the Interior.

Subject: Subordination of Border and Paramilitary Police Units to the GAI.

Reference: Service Regulation No. 1, Section I Para. 5, and Section IV.

I. I express my thanks to the Ministers of the Interior and the Chiefs of the Lander Police for their farsighted and constructive work thus far in connection with the organization of the Border and Paramilitary Police. In this connection, it is my expectation that the Ministers of the Interior and the Chiefs of the Lander Police will continue to lend me their support during the forthcoming transition period as well, until such time as the entire organization of the Border and Paramilitary Police in all its phases can be taken over by the GAI.

II. The following orders are issued for the implementation of the transfer of the Border and Paramilitary Police to the GAI:

1. The GAI will assume control over Border and Paramilitary Police including their entire personnel and supplies, in so far as this does not conflict with special orders issued separately by the GAI, sig., subsequent special regulations.
2. a. Basic orders and regulations, including documents, accounting

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Date: 3 May 78 By: 021

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forms, property receipts of all kinds, etc., issued previously by Land police authorities, will remain in force, until the issuance of final regulations by the GAI, Hauptabt. GP/B, in so far as these have not already been rescinded by more recent GAI orders.

- b. A compilation of a) basic orders and regulations, currently still in force, issued previously by Land police authorities will be submitted to the GAI, Hauptabteilung GP/B (Border and Paramilitary Police Branch) by the Border and Paramilitary Police Abteilungen, by 16 November 1948.
- c. On the basis of this order, Land police authorities will immediately transfer all requisite basic files to Border and Paramilitary Police Divisions (GP/B). The GAI will issue uniform regulations on all matters pertaining to this subject.

3. It is specifically ordered that:

- a. Assumption of full control by the Border and Paramilitary Police of the GAI of Polit-cultural (G-1), Operations (G-2), and Personnel (G-3) matters is effective as of 15 November 1948. This will not affect current continued working relationship with the various other police branches in the ~~Land~~.
- b. Henceforth the GAI will be responsible for the handling of all personnel matters pertaining to Border and Paramilitary police. Special regulations will be issued concerning uniform handling of all personnel matters.

Land police authorities continue to remain responsible for the personnel staffing of Border and Paramilitary Police Abteilungen, as well as the staffs of these Abteilungen.

In connection with the current transfer of the Border and Paramilitary Police to the command of the GAI, table of organization slots for officers which are still vacant are to be filled. Recommendations should be submitted with agreement of GP/B Abteilungen of the GAI (Hauptabteilung GP/B) by 20 November 1948.

4. On the subject of Quartermaster Services (Section G-4 - 8) the following transfer orders are in force:

- a. Routine and technical work must be continued without interruption. Under no circumstances should financial or business mistakes or omissions occur. Especially in matters of pay and food supply, any disturbances or occurrences prejudicial to police members in carrying out their work should be avoided.
- b. It is the responsibility of Land police authorities to ascertain that in the entire field of Quartermaster Services the necessary trained personnel are made available for the training and instruction, in the stipulated time, of new workers of the GP/B.
- c. Responsibility for budget and finance matters will be transferred to the Abt. GP/B of GAI (Hauptabt. GP/B) effective 1 January 1949. Necessary preparations for this must be reported on 20 December by Abt. GP/B of the GAI (Hauptabt. GP/B). Date of the final transfer will be announced.
- d. Handling of matters pertaining to food supply, clothing, billeting, weapons, and technical equipment will become the personal responsibility of the Abt. GP/B as of 15 November, and close cooperation with Land police authorities will continue to be maintained.
- e. Land police authorities will issue the appropriate weapons and ammunition to the Paramilitary Police in case they, in conjunction with Abt. GP/B, have not yet done so. This is to be completed by 15 November at the latest.

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- f. In the field of communications, present regulations remain in force until further notice. Land police authorities are responsible for development of the communications net of the Border and Paramilitary police to include all "Bereitschaften" and all "Kommandos" of the Border and Paramilitary police (Grenz Bereitschaften). They are further responsible for secure establishment of the Abt. GP/B requisites in the present communication net.
- g. All motor vehicles of any type in use on the date of this order by Border and Paramilitary police will remain with them. Fuel allocation will be handled as previously by the Land police authorities until further notice.

Concerning repairs of weapons, motor vehicles, and other equipment, regulations put forth in Service Regulation Nr. I, Section IV, remain in force.

- h. In veterinary and sanitation matters, the present regulations will remain in force until further notice by the GAI.

III. Correspondence necessary to carry out the above instructions will be handled as unclassified material.

IV. Final reports to the GAI (Hauptabteilung GP/B):

Reports will be submitted independently and simultaneously by the Land police authorities and the Border and Paramilitary Police Abteilungen:

1. By 1000, 16 November 1948, via teletype
  - a. Concerning transfer of GP/B Abteilungen, including subordinate units from control of Land police authorities and assumption of independent command by the GP/B Abteilungen.
  - b. Concerning completed issuance of weapons and ammunition to paramilitary police units.
2. By 16 November 1948, in written reports
  - a. A compilation by Abt. GP/B of basic regulations issued by the Land police, which are currently still in force.
  - b. Report of compliance by the Land police authorities and Abt. GP/B with respect to transfer of all necessary basic files to the latter. (ref. II para. 2 c)
3. By 20 November 1948, recommendations from Land police authorities and Abt. GP/B (ref. II para. 3b) on assignment of officers to vacant T/O slots.
4. By 20 December 1948, Abt. GP/B will report their preparedness to assume responsibility for budget and finance matters. (ref. para. 4c)

signed

signed

Rentzsch  
Chief, Border and Paramilitary  
Police Hauptabteilung.  
Copies to all Ministers of Interior,  
Land Police Authorities GP/B.

Dr. Fischer

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(Field Comment: The Tripartite Agreement on Germany signed by the governments of the United Kingdom, United States, and the USSR in Potsdam on 2 August 1945 includes the following provision: "The administration of affairs in Germany should be directed towards the decentralization of the political structure and the development of local responsibility." The same agreement on demilitarization states: "All German ... and all other military and quasi-military organizations ... which serve to keep alive the military traditions in Germany, shall be completely and finally abolished in such a manner as permanently to prevent revival and reorganization of German militarism and Nazism."

The order of the German Administration of the Interior, which was subsequently approved by the Soviet Military Administration, is yet another documentary of a violation of the Potsdam agreement because the establishment of a zonally controlled, paramilitary police which is neither decentralized nor subject to local responsibility, and the organization of a paramilitary body which by no stretch of the imagination is needed for police duties, in effect reconstitutes a German military organization.)

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